

REMARKS

In Office Action mailed November 27, 2007, the Examiner noted that claims 1-7 and 9 were pending. Claims 1, 4, 6, 7 and 9 have been amended herein, and new claim 10 has been added herein. Thus, claims 1-7, 9 and 10 are pending for consideration which is respectfully requested. No new matter has been added.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

On page 2, item 3 the Office Action rejected claims 1-7 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Thatte et al., (U.S. Patent No. 6,442,630 (hereinafter Thatte), in view of Klimczak et al., U.S. Patent Application publication No. 2002/0023180 (hereinafter Klimczak). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 as amended recites "a message and action relationship storing part that stores a content of an action that is a reaction to the message and, when a message is given, **searches for the content of an action corresponding to the given message by using the message body of the given message as a search key**" (lines 6-10, emphasis added).

The Office Action acknowledged that Thatte does not explicitly disclose a message and action relationship storing part. The Examiner alleged, however, that Klimczak discloses a message and action relationship storing part for storing contents of an action that is a reaction to the message.

Specifically, in the second paragraph of the May 16, 2008 Advisory Action, the Examiner asserted that Klimczak discloses "storing contents of an action item [= action description 324] that is a reaction to the message [= object]... [f]or example, action items relate to the input devices... and the subscriber could configure appropriate action items to predefine the function of various mouse 112 buttons or keyboard 114 keys." Assuming *arguendo* that input devices describe action items, Klimczak does not describe the feature of "search[ing] for a content of an action corresponding to the given message by using the message body of the given message as a search key" as recited by claim 1. Klimczak merely describes utilizing an identifier to check whether an action item is present (See Klimczak, page 6, paragraph [0097], FIG. 6 and 7, and page 3, paragraph 41). Merely utilizing an identifier, however, does not equate to "search[ing]... by using the message body of the given message as a search key." In other words, Klimczak's identifier does not describe using a message body as a search key.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that neither Thatte nor Klimczak, alone or in combination, describe at least “a message and action relationship storing part that stores a content of an action that is a reaction to the message and, when a message is given, searches for the content of an action corresponding to the given message by using the message body of the given message as a search key” as recited by claim 1. Therefore, claim 1 patentably distinguishes over the cited art.

Independent claim 4 recites “a message and action relationship storing part that stores a content of an action that is a reaction to the message and when a message is given, searches for the content of an action corresponding to the given message by using the message body of the given message as a search key,” and therefore patentably distinguishes over the cited art.

Independent claims 6 and 7 recite “a message and action relationship storing processing operation of storing a content of an action that is a reaction to the message and when a message is given, searching for the content of an action corresponding to the given message by using the message body of the given message as a search key,” and therefore patentably distinguish over the cited art.

Independent claim 9 recites “a message and action relationship storing part that stores a content of an action that is a reaction to the message and, when a message is given, searching for the content of an action corresponding to the given message by using the message body of the given message as a search key,” and therefore, patentably distinguishes over the cited art.

Dependent claims 2-3 and 5 depend from independent claims 1 and 4, respectively, and therefore dependent claims 2-3 and 5 are patentable over the references for at least the reasons presented for the independent claims.

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully request the rejection be withdrawn.

New Claim

Applicants assert that new claim 10 patentably distinguishes over the cited art. For example, claim 10 recites “determining whether a type of the captured message matches a particular message type, and when a match occurs, executing an action corresponding to the message.” Applicants submit that the cited art fails to describe or contemplate determining whether a captured message matches a particular type of message. In addition, claim 10 describes “communication between objects on the network occurs **without specifying a destination object in said message**” (emphasis added). Applicants assert the cited art does not describe such a feature. Accordingly, claim 10 patentably distinguishes over the cited art.

Conclusion

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

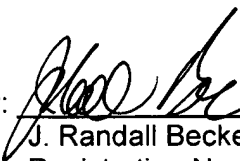
Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: 5/21/8

By: 
J. Randall Beckers
Registration No. 30,358

1201 New York Avenue, N.W., 7th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 434-1500
Facsimile: (202) 434-1501